a second end region adapted to engage the outer wall tissue of a second nasal passage;

an intermediate segment coupling the first end region to the second end region and configured to traverse a portion of a nose located between the first and second nasal passages;

a flexible strip of base material extending over at least a portion of the first and second end regions and the intermediate segment; and

resilient means extending along the truss member including a first resilient band secured to the flexible strip of base material adjacent a first edge thereof[;] and a second resilient band secured to the flexible strip of base material at a second edge thereof [,] such that each have end portions that terminate at least at sections of said end edges of the first and second end regions with the second resilient band being spaced from and extending generally parallel to the first resilient band, the resilient means acting to stabilize the outer wall tissue and thereby prevent the outer wall tissue of the first and second nasal passages from drawing in during breathing.

16 ~~10.~~ (Amended) [The nasal dilator of claim 9 wherein the discontinuity of shape is] A nasal dilator for preventing outer wall tissue of nasal passages of a nose from drawing in during breathing, comprising:

a truss member including:

a first end region adapted to engage the outer wall tissue of a first nasal passage;

a second end region adapted to engage the outer wall tissue of a second nasal passage;

an intermediate segment coupling the first end region to the second end region and configured to traverse a portion of a nose located between the first and second nasal passages; and

resilient means extending along the truss member and having end portions that terminate at least at sections of end edges of the first and second end regions, a back cut provided extending into said truss member at each of said end edges of the first and second end regions which is located between a portion of the resilient means and a further portion of the truss member at first and second end regions of the truss member for preventing inadvertent delamination of the strip of base material from the outer wall tissue of the first and second nasal passages.

17. (Amended) A nasal dilator capable of introducing separating stresses in outer wall tissues of a human nose, comprising:

a truss having a pair of spaced apart end [surfaces] regions each having a side terminated by end edges at opposite ends of said truss such that if said spaced apart end [surfaces] region sides are forced toward one another from initial positions to substantially reduce said spacing therebetween by a spacing reduction force external to said truss, restoring forces result in said truss sufficient to restore a substantial fraction of said spacing between said end [surfaces] region sides absent such spacing reduction forces; and

an engagement means adhered to said end [surfaces] region sides and capable of engaging exposed surfaces of such outer wall tissues sufficiently to remain so engaged against said restoring forces, said pair of end [surfaces] region sides with said engagement means adhered thereto each including [surfaces] as part thereof sides of a corresponding pair of extensions with a said [extensions] extension in a said pair thereof being separated by a back cut from [one another such that] at least some other portion of that said end region of which it is a part with said back cut extending into that said end region from said end [edges therebetween define a primarily concave opening] edge thereof.